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The Spectator

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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Campus groups host "Funeral for Our Futures" before the Utica Climate Strike

by Kaitlyn Fudge '23
Staff Writer

This past Friday, Dec. 6, many campus groups participated in the second climate strike of the semester on campus. The Sunrise Movement led this strike along with support from the Feminists of Color Collective (FCC), Shenandoah Kirkland Initiative (SKI), and Vegan Club. Beginning in Kirner Johnson at 10:45 a.m., students and faculty made their way to Buttrick Hall. Students wore all black and mourned for "the death of our generation at the hands of the climate crisis," according to all-campus emails. On the steps of Buttrick, participants placed a coffin, which had a sign that said "Hamilton Divest 1985—".

Sunrise listed their demands in an email sent to the student body, which included a call for Hamilton to divest and declare a Climate Emergency. There were several speakers, beginning with a Land Acknowledgement given by Daygot Leeyos (wolf clan) and Tsilos Edwards (wolf clan) from the Oneida Nation. They led the group through prayers and songs and set the atmosphere for the strike. People endured the snow and cold while holding posters on either side of the road outside of Buttrick. Speakers like Madison Lazenby '23 led the group in chants like "This is what democracy looks like," and Aiden Costello '20 led the group in songs.

The first speaker was Eric Stenzel '23, one of the main coordinators for the strikes. He spoke about a previous divestment campaign in 1985, which pushed for Hamilton to divest from Apartheid South Africa.

There has been some progress made with members of the administration on the climate issue. According to Stenzel, "the Sustainability Working Group now plans to move the Carbon Neutral date up from 2050."

The next speaker at the strike was Zoe Sauvé '23, who discussed the fears for "our futures, our lives, or children's lives" that plague the minds of many young people today. This was displayed later in the strike when participants had the opportunity to shout out loud what they personally fear losing at the hands of the climate crisis. Sauvé ended with the question, "so I simply ask of Hamilton: which side are you on?"

The final speaker was Saphire Ruiz '22, Co-Chair of the FCC, which worked with the Sunrise Movement to make this strike a reality. She brought to light many statistics about climate change and argued that "Wippman and the Board of Trustees are going to survive the crisis in their cushioned homes on their piles of money, while the Black, Brown, and Indigenous folk who have sacrificed everything to protect this earth and everything on it are left dead and without justice." Ruiz claims that billions of people have already died because of the crisis, and the majority of those people were Black, Brown, and Indigenous folk, especially those of low-income background and in the Global South.

As the strike on campus wrapped up, there was another smaller march to a bus in the Dunham parking lot to transport strikers to the larger strike in Utica. Aoife Thomas '20 commented that "While no one came outside [of Buttrick] to address the protestors, I am sure they were aware of what was happening." Ruiz also agreed, stating that "divestment is definitely on people's radars now." Buttrick was empty at the time of the protest because the President was off-campus for the Board of Trustees meeting in New York City.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KAITLYN FUDGE '23

The protestors braved the cold and the snow to make their statement before moving to Utica for a larger protest.

When the bus with the strikers arrived in Utica, there were already strikers on location. Hamilton students helped hand out signs made from recycled cardboard. Some community members brought a kayak and life jackets and they protested in snow for roughly two hours. Honks filled the air as cars drove by from all directions, indicating their support. Hamilton students had the opportunity to talk with other members of the Utica community, as well as members from Utica College Outdoors Club, Indivisible Mohawk Valley, Citizen Action Central New York, Extinction Rebellion, the town of Kirkland's Democratic Committee, which all worked together to make this strike a reality. In total there were about 80 people who signed in at the strike.

Towards the end of the strike, Stenzel emphasized the fact that Utica and Oneida County have no climate action plan, to which the strike worked to bring awareness. He hopes to continue to see an increase in numbers as more strikes are held in the future.

Ruiz says that "we aren't going to stop the strikes, the protests, the campaigning, any of it until Hamilton divests from fossil fuels." There is another strike being planned for Earth Day 2020.

Outside of divestment, the College has made efforts to address climate change. In 2017, the College created the Hamilton Sustainability Coordinators (HSC) that directs three separate committees in an effort to create an eco-friendly campus. The Food and Waste, Grounds, and Education and Awareness Committees have facilitated major sustainability projects in 2018 and 2019. The Food and Waste Committee hosted Green Mondays every Monday in McEwen Dining Hall where no meat was served for both lunch and dinner. Both this and images they created in Commons Dining Hall of carbon and water footprints seek to educate the public on the environmental impact of food systems. The Committee also hosts Sadove presentations where the community can learn about proper waste segregation and updated the Solid Waste Management Plan in the Spring of 2019 to make it more sustainable off Campus.

Other projects include the Grounds Committee planting their first pollinator garden in front of Roger's estate to provide biodiverse habitats for pollinators of all types and reforestation in the Golf Course. In conjunction with forester Steve Bick and the Hamilton Grant's Office, they have worked to develop a grant application for resources to properly manage the forest and clean up invasive species at Hamilton's reservoir plot. The Education and Awareness Committee has hosted glen walks through the Kirkland Glen to speak about sustainability, had environmentally-themed Trivia night, and collaborated with Sadove Late Nite, where over 200 students attended their environmental crafts and education night.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KAITLYN FUDGE '23

The climate strike participants gathered in front of Buttrick Hall to listen to a number of speakers and engage in chants.

Students attend biomedical research conference for minority students

by Danie Edwards '21
Staff Writer

On Nov. 13, seven Hamilton students and two faculty members went to Anaheim, California for the four-day Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS).

The Hamilton students in attendance included members of both the sophomore and junior class (Nwe Sar '22, Kaela Makins '21, Joel Adade '22, Urbana Anam '21, Konama Pokuaa '21, Lea Barros '22, and Donna Le '21). Christian A. Johnson Excellence in Teaching Professor of Philosophy and Africana Studies Todd Franklin and Associate Professor of Chemistry & Chair of Biochemistry/Molecular Biology Professor Max Majireck accompanied these students to the conference as well.

ABRCMS provides an opportunity for over 2,500 underrepresented students from over 350 colleges to participate in poster and oral presentations for 12 different STEM disciplines. The conference aims to encourage minority students to pursue higher education in STEM by providing them with the tools they need to succeed. ABRCMS also makes an effort to promote science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in particular.

During the conference, Hamilton students presented their research to their peers and developed various professional skills, learned about a number of different graduate school programs, and networked with academics by interacting with academia's finest. Students in attendance enjoyed four days filled with activities ranging from visits to over 400 exhibit booths, speaker events, and different conversations with STEM peers and mentors.

Students presenting at the conference were also considered for awards. Hamilton College's own Barros won an award for her work on the cell level dynamics of pathogens. Professor Franklin commented that seeing his colleagues comment on his students' brilliance made him not only proud of their individual work but also very confident in the future of science.

Prior to the conference, Professor Franklin hosted on-campus workshops at Hamilton that analyzed the gap in academic achievement between students of color and other students in STEM. Professor Franklin believes it is important to consider this lack of minority presence in the field because "when STEM classrooms and laboratories are inclusive, the opportunities to ask different types of questions and imagine different types of approaches multiply and the potential for innovation and excellence grows exponentially!"

Le '21 recalled that her "favorite part of the conference was being surrounded by so many scientists of color" because she "felt very encouraged and inspired to connect with [her] fellow peers that were just as passionate as [herself]."

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Seven Hamilton students and two professors attended the conference to present their research in STEM-related fields.

Le observed that before her arrival, she "expected to see a lot of science." However, the conference's "inviting and stimulating experience that encouraged the interactions of individuals across various ranges of expertise and diverse concentrations" surprised her.

As for the future, the ABRCMS allowed the students to return to Hamilton with the motivation and drive to continue pursuing their goals in STEM during their undergraduate years at Hamilton and in their professional lives. In Le's words, she "definitely learned a lot from being able to attend this conference" and "now [thinks] of opportunities beyond Hamilton."

Genevieve Cohen '21 organizes book drive for the Prison Book Program

by Rosario Alarcon '22
Staff Writer

Genevieve Cohen '21, a junior at Hamilton, has organized a paperback book drive for the Prison Book Program that is currently in progress until the end of the semester. After Cohen took a visit to the Mohawk Correctional Facility in Rome, NY with some of her classmates in Walcott-Bartlett Chair of Ethics and Christian Evidences and Professor of Literature and Creative Writing Doran Larson's American Prison Writing Literature course, Cohen was inspired to help promote literacy.

She had the opportunity to converse with some of the inmates, one of whom expressed interest in reading Socrates. Cohen called the interaction "surprising" because she realized that "there must be a need for a wide variety of books in order to entertain such a diverse prison population."

The class also requires that its students accomplish an out-of-class project that either promotes this subject or is a direct effort to assist the problem. After conducting research into the variety of organizations that work toward distributing reading material, Cohen settled upon the Prison Book Program because they distribute donations across 44 states and, should there be any difficulty in the acceptance of a book, it will be given to another organization.

According to Cohen, over 2.2 million people are currently in prison across the United States and their lack of access to academic and literary material can often be ignored. Hamilton students and faculty, on the other hand, have the luxury of being constantly surrounded by educational materials and opportunities.

Outside the Hill, there are three prisons in Oneida County and each is only about 20 minutes away from Hamilton, according to Professor Larson. Thus, prison salaries "contribute to the tax base that maintains the same roads, civil services, and infrastructure that the Hamilton Community relies upon every day. It seems to me that, as dependent as we are on prisons, we have an obligation to help—as [Cohen] is doing—to make them constructive institutions."

He notes that it is important to donate because "incarcerated people can transform their lives through education and reading. Illiteracy and inadequate educational opportunities are major factors in the lives of most people who are locked up and who return to prison after release. Learning to read and write, and learning through reading are material elements of successful reentry into law-abiding lives. If you want safe neighborhoods, send books to prisons and support education inside."

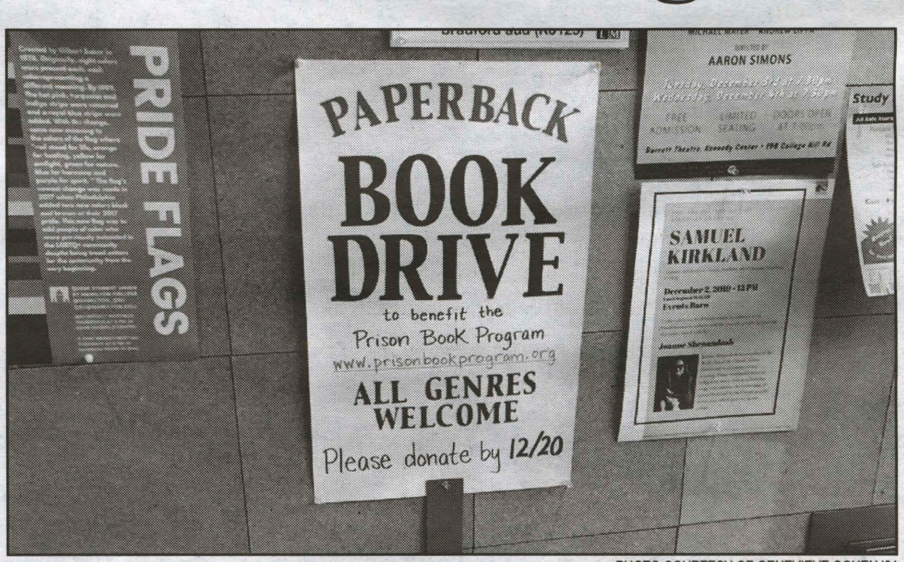

PHOTO COURTESY OF GENEVIEVE COHEN '21

Cohen '21 was inspired to help promote literacy after visiting the Mohawk Correctional Facility in Rome, NY.

Cohen hopes that "this gap in education will be reduced and that these men and women will have better opportunities upon their release." Students can find drop off locations in the KJ Atrium, Sadove, Burke Library, Bristol Center, the Science Center Atrium, and the lobby of Root Hall. Cohen expresses her gratitude towards those who donate and towards those who are interested in doing so.

Annual First-Year Course Conference showcases student coursework

by Brian Seiter '23
Staff Writer

On Dec. 7 at 1 p.m. the First-Year Course Conference took place as an opportunity for first-year students to showcase the various things they had learned in their first term of courses on the Hill. The event took place in the Library's 24-hour room where presentations on various subjects were presented to the Hamilton community.

The Conference was organized by Alex Rihm Wohnsen, the First-Year Experience Librarian. Wohnsen invited academic classes categorized as first-year courses to the conference, including Professor Katherine Terrell's Literature 149: Finding Identity class and Professor Tina Hall's Literature 125: Monsters class.

Alongside the students from these classes presenting on what things they had learned, the professors also participated in the Conference. From the Archaeology and Literature departments, Professor Carpenter, Professor Hall, Professor Sundar, and Professor Terrell all attended.

The Conference was full of different presentations with greatly varying subject matter. Speaking to this, Professor Hall told me, "There was a great range of exhibits at the Conference, everything from posters on Dendrochronology (tree-ring dating) to sculptures based on Shakespeare's The Tempest to faux satellite imagery inspired by "The Call of Cthulhu." Projects varied between classes and professors. Professor Hall said that, "students from my class created specimens from monsters that appeared in the short stories we read this semester." Professor Terrell stated that her students, "made large-format posters based on their research into the background, reception, and publishing history of literary works." The Conference had a very diverse group of projects.

Professor Hall and Professor Terrell also spoke about how they believe the conference can help First Year students.

Professor Terrell stated that "The Conference encourages campus community, as students from different courses—and different class years—get to see what others have been working on. It helps the presenters to develop public speaking skills as they explain their projects to those attending the Conference, and it provides valuable experience in translating specialized research for a broad audience."

Furthering this sentiment, Professor Hall added that the Conference "is a great way for students (and professors) to see what kinds of research is happening in classes across the curriculum. The First Year Conference is a valuable way for students to "publish" their work and share ideas with the larger community while highlighting the depth of knowledge and inventiveness that can be achieved even in the very first semester of college."

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

The First-Year Course Conference, hosted in Burke Library, featured student presentations from various departments.

Arianna Robertson '23 spoke to why she attended the Conference, saying, "I thought it would be fun to turn the research we did for our class project into a poster that would be presented to an outside audience." Jesse Wexler '23 said he was very happy he attended the Conference and explained that, "The Conference was a very fun and engaging way to learn. I was able to see how diverse the subject matter is in Hamilton's curriculum and feel very inspired." Ethan Plous '23 was another attendee and reported, "I would encourage other first year students to engage in conferences like these. This Conference was very helpful to me and I would recommend going to others."

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, December 5

12:07 A.M. Noise Complaint – South Campus
7:00 A.M. Motorist Assist – On Campus
1:15 P.M. Motor Vehicle Accident – Philip Spencer House
6:56 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Scott Field House

Friday, December 6

9:20 A.M. Parking Complaint – Bristol Campus Center
8:07 P.M. Medical Emergency – Commons Dining Hall
10:24 P.M. Trouble Alarm – C.A. Johnson

Saturday, December 7

12:07 A.M. Complaint – Eells House
3:28 A.M. Complaint – Babbitt Residence Hall
10:38 A.M. Medical Emergency – Morris House
12:46 P.M. Complaint – Minor Residence Hall
8:55 P.M. Suspicious Activity – North Residence Hall
10:49 P.M. Medical Emergency – Bristol Campus Center
11:31 P.M. Medical Emergency – North Campus
11:53 P.M. Medical Emergency – North Campus

Sunday, December 8

1:02 A.M. Medical Emergency – North Campus
4:05 A.M. Noise Complaint – South Campus
11:25 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Kirkland Residence Hall
12:13 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
1:25 P.M. Concern for Welfare – Bundy West Residence Hall

Monday, December 9

5:26 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
4:31 P.M. Animal Complaint – South Campus

Tuesday, December 10

5:39 A.M. Area Check – Milbank Residence Hall
7:10 A.M. Fire Alarm – ABC House
11:52 P.M. Noise Complaint – Dunham Residence Hall

Thank You, Will

On behalf of everyone at *The Spectator*, we would like to say thank you to our Editor-in-Chief Will Kaback '20.

Whether or not you know him personally, we can assure you that Will has positively impacted you. He has worked tirelessly for over a year to ensure that important and interesting information of the highest quality is available to the Hamilton community every single week. No one puts in more effort than Will.

The Spectator has been Will's ship since Spring '18, and he has steered a staff of over 50 students with incredible integrity and a strong sense of direction throughout his tenure as Editor-in-Chief.

From a student's perspective, we are grateful for the work he has put in to make everyone's stories accessible to the community. From an editor's perspective, we cannot thank him enough for fostering an empowering working environment and welcoming sense of community.

It's easy to get caught up in coursework, extracurriculars, and your own personal life, but Will never let that get in the way of getting the news out to the community. We can only hope that we can continue his legacy and build off of the rock-solid foundation he has left us in the newsroom.

As the incoming Editors-in-Chief of *The Spectator*, we have gotten the opportunity to work closely with Will and see his dedication to journalism and this paper upfront. We feel very lucky to have had his guidance as we enter our new roles and we know we speak for the staff at large when we say that Will's hard work and passion for the paper has left a lasting mark on this publication.

Thank you, Will! Please get some sleep.

Sincerely,
Amanda Kim '21 & Claire Goldstein '22
Incoming Editors-in-Chief of *The Spectator*

The Spectator

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Will Kaback

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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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About Us

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The case for Kamala Harris: Why Democrats made a grave mistake

by Lelan O'Brien '23
Opinion Contributor

Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA) announced her bid for the Presidency on Jan. 21 and later followed it with a rally of 20,000 people in her hometown of Oakland, California. She was a one-time-frontrunner, first in momentum, received a considerable first-debate bump after her attacks on Former Vice President Biden, and assured voters that she was the one to prosecute the case against President Trump. She was the only woman of color in the race and despite already qualifying for the December debate, on Dec. 3 Harris announced that she would be suspending her campaign. That same day billionaire Tom Steyer qualifies for the debate and a week later billionaire Mike Bloomberg announced his candidacy. The democratic party went from the most diverse field ever to six white candidates projected to be on stage in December. Where did the Senator—or, more importantly, where did the democratic party—go wrong?

In short: the democratic party is moving far left. It is happening so quickly that they cannot fathom a former Attorney General as President. Yet it is that very principle—Harris' background in law enforcement—that made her the perfect candidate to go toe to toe with President Trump. She was the one: a moderate who had the potential to earn votes from independents and voters in fly-over states across the country. Harris had moderate views on issues like healthcare and wanted a ban on automatic weapons, yet owned a firearm herself. If the party was not so close-minded, Kamala could have landed herself as our first female president.

Instead, Democrats are having a hard time understanding that to beat President Trump it will take a new, fresh moderate voice like Harris who can take back states like Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan. They are too obsessed with who best embodies Medicare for all, or who has the most radical take on the Green New Deal, to care about how to win over swing states or independents. The candidates themselves may not be as naive to the voices of those key voters, but their celebrity donors and out of touch liberal supporters most certainly are. This is now crystal clear through Harris dropping out of the race.

"Kamala is a cop," circled social media leading up to her suspension, implying that her background in law enforcement makes her unelectable. What troubles me most about this is that now the party believes that being a "cop" makes her automatically unfit. Supporters of other candidates point to her previous stances on the death penalty and Marijuana especially, as prime examples of why she did not deserve the party's nomination. Despite what competitor Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI) may suggest, Harris was always against the death penalty throughout her career. As Attorney General for the second-largest Department of Justice in the country (second to the United States Department of Justice) it is unfair to hold Harris accountable for the work of over 4,500 staffers and their improper handling of a few cases that never even reached her desk.

With marijuana, as a San Francisco District Attorney, before becoming state Attorney General, only 45 people were sentenced to state prison for marijuana convictions in her tenure. In contrst, 135 were sentenced by her predecessor who held office for just as long as Harris. Tulsi Gabbard came after her for her record on marijuana as a State Attorney which is also unfair since marijuana convictions are done by the county District Attorneys, like Harris was in San Francisco, (with only 45 prison convictions), not state Attorney Generals. Far-left Democrats championing Gabbard's unfounded attacks on the once "cop" need to take a deep look in the mirror before they go about cheering on an anti-Hillary, pro-Bashar Al Assad candidate. The media attention on these issues soon consumed the platform for Harris, and she was forced to work around this new unprioritized far-left, democratic party.

Harris's withdrawal from the race highlights potential biases held against her by pundits and analysts on account of her race. Whether it was announcing campaign fund re-assessments or stances where she greatly deviated from the far left candidates like Bernie Sanders, the media made sure the electorate heard about it. The media chose these stories to stir up the far left voters for ratings while turning a blind eye to Elizabeth Warren's lies about her Native American heritage, Joe Biden's creepy altercations with women and girls, in addition to Bernie Sanders' heart attack, all major concerns for moderates (not to mention their radical, seemingly unachievable, agendas).

In the meantime, Senator Harris' story was suffocated. A career's worth of triumphs from getting $18 billion for homeowners in California, legalizing gay marriage for the state in 2013 (2 years before the supreme court approval) and the country's first open data initiative to fight implicit racial bias in the police force were not enough. Her passion was "For the People," as an advocate for minorities, women and LGBT rights but most importantly she felt she could reunify the country. She aimed to bring us together: from those on the far left to the unhappy Trump supporters. We have more that brings us together than divides us. This was embodied within Kamala Harris. This is why she was the moderate our country needed that many did not know we even had. This is why she is sure to be at the top of all democratic candidates shortlist for Vice President. This is why Kamala Harris deserved to be the democratic nominee in 2020 and the first female leader of the United States.

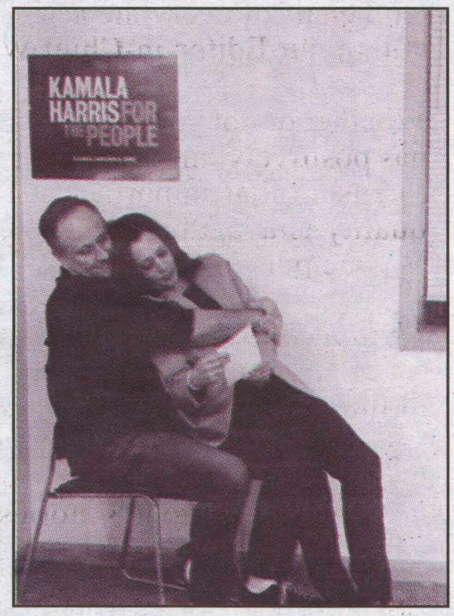


PHOTO COURTESY OF DOUGLAS EMHOFF ON TWITTER

Harris' husband posted this image to Twitter after she officially terminated her presidential campaign.

"Ok Boomer": A meme that triggered a whole generation

by Maeve Wroblewski '23
Opinion Contributor

I never thought a meme could cause a generational war. "Ok Boomer" has proved me wrong. The trend began as a reaction to a TikTok video of an older man accusing Gen Z and Millenials of having "Peter Pan Syndrome." This prompted multiple young TikTok users to make videos simply saying "Ok Boomer" as a dismissive response. One of its most notable uses was by New Zealand MP Chlöe Swarbrick, who was in the midst of giving a speech regarding climate change. An older man interrupted her, to which she swiftly responded "Ok Boomer" and moving on. The phrase became the default response to any outdated criticism from the older generation.

To Millenials and Gen Z, "Ok Boomer" stands for much more than a retort. Boomers are generally known for placing harsh judgements on youth for enjoying technology and social media, accusing them of being lazy or unappreciative. "Ok Boomer" is not an unprovoked remark but rather a response to the accumulation of judgement pressed upon us. The meme has allowed people to bond over their shared frustration with the older generation in a harmless, joking manner. Taylor Lorenz, a journalist for *The New York Times,* wrote an article titled "'OK Boomer' Marks the End of Friendly Generational Relations," which helped the phrase gain even more exposure than it already had.

Among some, however, the phrase is considered offensive due to ageist connotations. Some Boomers spoke out in protest of "Ok Boomer" due to their feeling of being brushed off or disrespected by the phrase. Conservative radio host Bob Lonsberry made a ridiculous tweet in which he referred to "Boomer" as the "n-word of ageism." He was immediately attacked for being horribly inconsiderate, and rightfully so in my opinion. The fact that he could even think to compare "Ok Boomer" to the centuries of racism and oppression faced by Black people is unimaginable. If you have to write "the n-word" instead of the actual slur, then it is clearly far worse than "Boomer."

Something I find rather interesting about the backlash "Ok Boomer" has received is the fact that it is coming from a generation known to accuse Millennials and Gen Z of being overly sensitive. "Generation Snowflake" is the term used to describe today's youth. According to the "snowflake" narrative, milennials and Gen Z youth consider themselves so unique that they lack any self-awareness or resilience to adversity. Our technology-saturated lives have left us with cushy lives and thin skin. This has always been baffling to me because I assumed people would want life to be easier for their children and grandchildren, rather than wanting them to endure the same struggles as they did. I agree that it is much easier to be young as a part of the Millennial generation or Gen Z; however this should not be something to be bitter about. Additionally, today's youth has been nicknamed the Snowflake Generation because of our focus on civil rights. In 2015, conflict regarding the cultural appropriation of certain Halloween costumes at Yale University led students to urge higher-ups to intervene if costumes were found offensive. This was considered an overreaction, yet "Ok Boomer" is somehow equivalent to the n-word.

In my opinion, we should keep it up. The deeper purpose of "Ok Boomer" is to act as our anthem in response to harsh judgements placed upon us from the older generation. But more than that, it is just a joke! It is not that serious. So, wave them off. Give them a taste of their own medicine. If they do not like it, simply hit them with the "Ok Boomer."

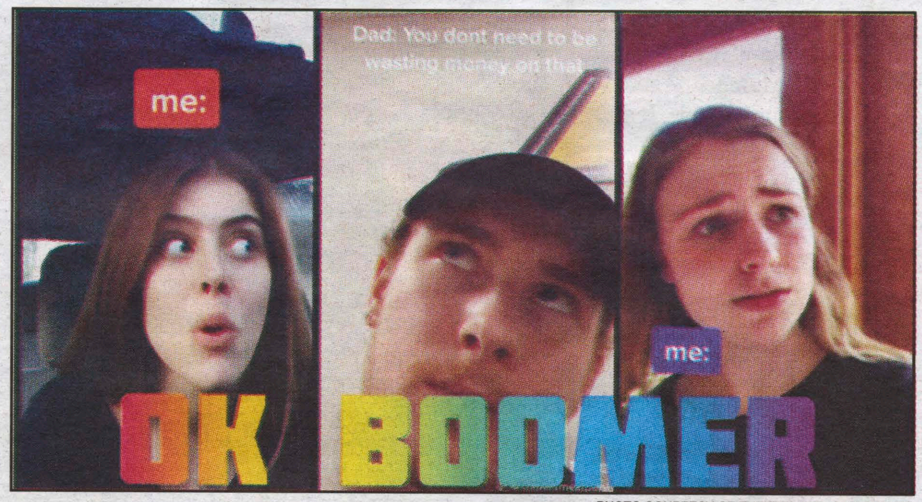


PHOTO COURTESY OF ENTERTAINED ON YOUTUBE

The meme started as a TikTok trend among younger generations.

Capital punishment and the flaws of the American prison system

by Alma Bradley '21
Opinion Contributor

On Friday, Nov. 15, Hamilton College Democrats hosted an event for students through which they called Governor Abbot of Texas in support of the Free Rodney Reed campaign. Enormous public pressure led the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals to order an indefinite stay of execution for Mr. Reed. Mr. Reed has long maintained his innocence, and in recent months new witnesses came forward and identified an alternative suspect, the victim's fiance. Jimmy Fennell, currently incarcerated for rape and kidnapping, allegedly confessed the murder to another incarcerated person: "I had to kill my n*****-loving fiancée," Fennell said.

However, Reed's case is not unique. A 2014 report by the National Academy of Sciences found that 1 in every 25 people who receive a death sentence are innocent. 150 people on death-row have been exonerated since the death penalty was re-instated. Innocent defendants have been sentenced to death due to questionable testimony by forensics evidence, inadequate defense, "tunnel vision" on the part of the police and prosecutors, and racial discrimination in jury selection.

The New York Times recently profiled three men sentenced to death that evidence suggests may be innocent. One such man is Larry Swearingen who was convicted in 1998 for the rape and murder of Melissa Trotter, a 19-year old first-year student at a community college near Houston. There were no witnesses to the abduction or killing. The prosecution centered their case around half a pair of pantyhose found at Mr. Swearingen's property, described as a perfect match of the pantyhose used to strangle Ms. Trotter. However, this past year the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory (DPS) conceded the analyst should not have provided testimony that the pantyhose were a unique match.

Additionally, DNA tests determined that blood found under Ms. Trotter's fingernails did not match Mr. Swearingen's. While the state then argued contamination had altered the test results, this year the DPS deemed the testimony inaccurate. Moreover, the timing of Ms. Trotter's death may point to Mr. Swearingen's innocence.

While the medical examiner testified Ms. Trotter had been killed 25 days before her body was found. The examiner and other experts later said Ms. Trotter's body was found 2 weeks after death. Mr. Swaringen had already been in jail for 22 days when the body was discovered, eliminating him as the perpetrator based on this revised timeline.

Texas executed Mr. Swearingen on Aug. 21, 2019. His last words were: "Lord forgive them. They don't know what they are doing."

Aside from the moral argument against the death penalty, the consequences of an incorrect verdict, and the prevalence of innocence people on death row, should be reason enough to abolish the death penalty. Anthony Graves, exonerated from Texas's death row in 2010, said "it's not an infallible system. Anyone can be sentenced to death for a crime they didn't commit. That alone is a reason that the death penalty should be abolished."

Hamilton students should be contacting our elected officials and signing petitions in specific cases as well as to affect structural change. The fight does not end with Rodney Reed, it is a constant battle.

Most importantly, allies should help elevate the voices of incarcerated people and those sentenced to death. Change should stem from the beliefs and knowledge of those who have experienced the carceral system: former incarcerated people, their families, and their lawyers. Moreover, these voices can humanize the convicted incarcerated people, and counter entrenched myths and stereotypes regarding incarcerated people, potentially changing opinions of the "get tough" crowd.

As Marlene Martin, the Executive Director of the Campaign to End the Death Penalty, notes:

"One way the death penalty survives is that prisoners on death row are dehumanized. At our 'Live from Death Row' events, a prisoner calls in and talks to a live audience by teleconference. People get to hear the person behind this death sentence They hear their voice, their sufferings, their hopes. They sense the dignity that can exist even in the most wretched circumstances. Showing the human side of those incarcerated is important in developing a culture that is intolerant of the use of the death penalty."

Similarly, Barbara Becnel, friend of executed death row inmate Stanley Tookie Williams, recalled that "Williams believed one way to decrease support for capital punishment was to show mainstream America that death row prisoners are human beings, not monsters that deserve to die. His memoir, Blue Rage, Black Redemption, profoundly demonstrated this."

Ms. Becnel proposed allies should "donate literature written by death row prisoners to libraries, churches and classrooms to transform death penalty supporters into believers in the humanity of all people and of the need to end capital punishment."

In addition to Ms. Martin and Ms. Bencel's suggestions, Hamilton College possesses a unique and important resource in the fight against the prison system, in The American Prison Writing Archive (APWA). Founded by Professor Doran Larson, the APWA aims to replace stereotypes and speculation of prisons and incarcerated people with essays from incarcerated people. By archiving first-person witnesses accounts within the carceral system, the APWA hopes to ground national debate on mass incarceration with lived experience.

If you are interested in reading essays by those living on death row, you can read some here. If you are interested in assisting with The American Prison Writing Archive, you can help transcribe essays here: https://apw.dhinitiative.org/content/request-permission-transcribe-apwa-essays.

Thumbs Up

Reading periods

The idea of a reading period is great. A little time off to focus on studying and nothing else is genius. If you are not into the whole "studying" thing, these days are a great excuse to day drink. There's something for everyone. Readng periods are a beautiful collegiate tradition that I frankly feel deprived of here at Hamilton. When I committed to coming here, I knew I wasn't going to get the college life I had seen in the movies. I knew the night life was garbage, and the weather sucked, and everyone was going to be too conumed by work to sow *Animal House* -style chaos. But damnit I just wanted to experience a good old-fashioned reading period. I feel deprived and oppressed.

Thumbs Down

No reading period

Counting the two-day weekend as a reading period is some of the most heinous chicanery this school has committed since cold-calling waitlisted students to solicit donations. We have a reading period every week by that definition. I would gladly take one less day off of winter break to get just one extra day to study. Hell, I'm always itching to get back after a month around my family anyway.

Who Cares?

Reading periods

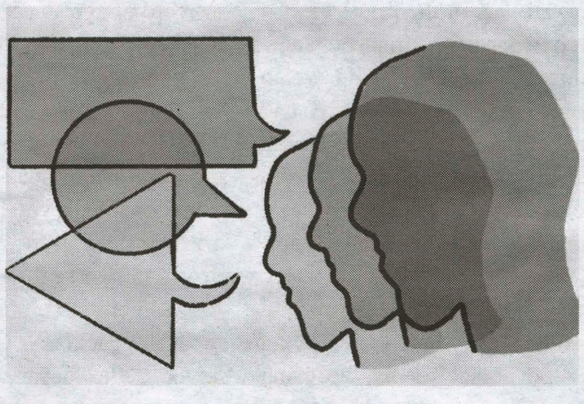
Eh. Nothing's going to change anytime soon so what's the point in complaining. Lord knows I wasn't going to go outside this weekend anyway.

by Peter Case '21

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Strongly opinionated? Disagree with someone? Think a certain issue isn't getting enough attention?

Write about it!



Email spec@hamilton.edu for more information!

The Spectator

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Juliet Davidson '23

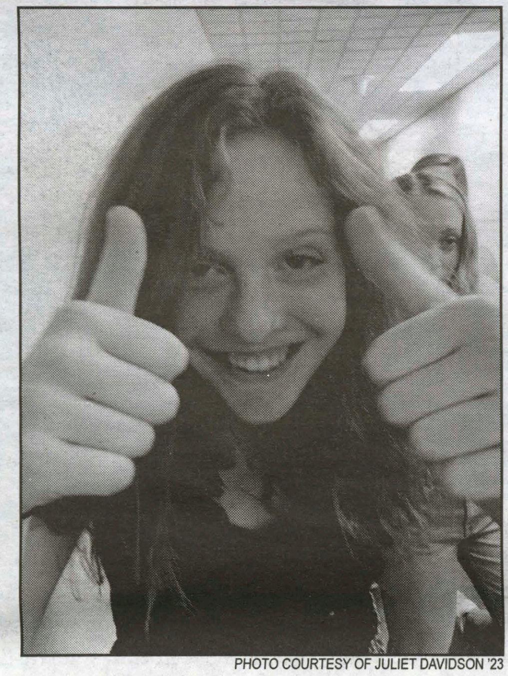


PHOTO COURTESY OF JULIET DAVIDSON '23

Hometown: *NYC.*
Home on Campus: *Dunham.*
Major: *Home Economics.*
Turn on? *Looks malnourished.*
Turn off? *Is malnourished.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *DaBaby and Ezra Keonig: great, but definitely not fit for AM radio.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Bang for your buck."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Hallmark movie: B-list performances, A-list entertainment.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Step sister, what are you doing in my room??!"*
What's your type? *Step siblin– kidding. Sarah Silverman.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Larry David, my brother's Spotify Premium, and undies.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *The walk up the hill.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *The jazz ensemble.*
What's your patronus and why? *Snoopy: I'm cheeky, I have too much freedom, I piss in the woods, etc.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Replying all.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *A Shaun White haircut.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *My Shaun White haircut.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *The Daily Bull*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Marge. Easily.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A dinosaur waffle maker yet to be used.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Anything out of an Easy Bake oven.*
Lights on or lights off? *Strobe.*
Favorite campus study spot? *The table with the janky outlet in opus 2.*
What was your first thought this morning? *1000% chance I slept through my 8:30.*
What's the meaning of life? *AHI.*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *Bill Clinton because I too did not have sexual relations with that woman except for that one time and all the other times.*

Tyler Boudreau '20

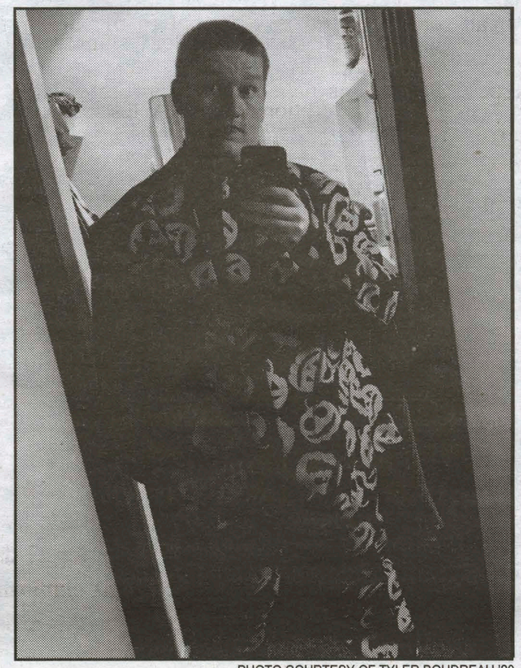


PHOTO COURTESY OF TYLER BOUDREAU '20

Hometown: *Exeter, N.H.*
Home on Campus: *MacIntosh 204.*
Major: *Classical Languages.*
Turn on? *Editors in Quarter Zips.*
Turn off? *When people say "half-moon."*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Sken, pretty nice but probably not a good decision if we're being honest with ourselves.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Barenaked Ladies and Simon and Garfunkel.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Any Movie. Any Theater. Any Day." (Rip Moviepass).*
What TV genre best describes you? *IFC Original Series that no one watches.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *I am wholly incapable of flirting and wholly unaware of ever being flirted with.*
What's your type? *Glasses, vocal fry, works in Opus.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Tater tots, podcasts, The Duel Observer.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Sadove Basement.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Sadove Basement.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Any friend group.*
What's your patronus and why? *Whale, very large and good at scaring away the dementors.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *I can't even comprehend breaking any rules I'm too compliant.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Discourse!*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Betsy DeVos!*
Whom would you say is your campus crush? *Elihu Root.*
Whom would you say is your faculty crush? *Amy Koenig.*
What would your perfect date be? *Go for a drive, maybe park somewhere and listen to a podcast together.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *I have glow in the dark stars on the walls.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Walking a sharp left turn around a corner.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Asparagus, because I make your pee smell bad.*
Lights on or lights off? *Moonlight.*

Dr. Sally Warner discusses ocean turbulence and climate change

by Cliff Musial '21
Features Editor

On Monday, Dec. 9, Dr. Sally Warner, while visiting Hamilton as a candidate for the position of Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, gave a lecture on the importance of turbulence in climate change. Dr. Warner is currently a research associate at Oregon State University. Her recent research, "focuses on understanding how heat gets into the ocean, specifically how turbulence mixes heat away from the surface into deeper water where it is stored for longevity." In her lecture Monday, Warner began by explaining how turbulence functions in the chaotic movement of fluids in the ocean, much like the turbulence we experience in the air flying in airplanes. She used a live demonstration of the way that saltwater and freshwater mix to further her point.

Warner's demonstration divided a chamber of saltwater from a chamber of freshwater in a glass container. By shining a light at this container, its shadow showed that as turbulence disturbs the water, the water mixes together.

In her research, Warner studied a similar movement of water in the oceans. She explained how she measures the rate of the movement of water in the equatorial pacific. One specific part of the equatorial Pacific, off the coast of South America along the equator, is expected to be more significantly impacted by climate change than other parts of the Earth's oceans. Warner studies the mixing and turbulence of water in this area due to its irregularity. As the climate changes and the average global temperature rises, so will the temperature of surface seawater. However, deeper water will remain at a cooler temperature and be less likely to mix and trade nutrients with the warmer water, Warner explained. Mixing ensures the distribution of both pollutants and nutrients and is essential to the health of the oceans.

This is especially important in the context of El Nino, a series of climatic changes occurring every few years that develops in the Pacific Ocean near-equatorial South America. Models predict that the El Nino area will be significantly colder than what her research shows. This is a problem because El Nino affects temperature all around the world, so if it causes temperatures to be warmer than predicted, then the effects of climate change will be much worse than currently thought. There is an amount of mixing of the warm surface temperature water with the colder layer beneath it. Warner explained that this regulates the intensity of El Nino's effect on the temperature in multiple regions on earth. However, if the surface temperature continues to rise, then mixing gets more difficult because of the density difference, so the temperature will stop being regulated, making the areas that El Nino effects much warmer.

According to Warner, "in the deep ocean, turbulence is weaker and the physics leading to mixing less well known. Numerous measurements indicate that deep turbulence is too weak to mix the water the way it appears to be mixed in the deep ocean. One possibility we are investigating is that the deep water is mixed at the ocean's boundaries, where turbulence is strong, and then transported away from shore and to depth by processes that are not yet understood."

Warner's field remains a frontier in environmental science, and she hopes to continue her research as a professor of Environmental Studies at Hamilton. She is interested in studying turbulence and mixing in the Great Lakes or even in smaller lakes closer to the college. Warner's specialty at Hamilton would be Environmental Data Science. Her research relies heavily on analyzing extensive data and would bring this experience and knowledge to Hamilton students as a professor.

PHOTO COURTESY OF OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Warner is a candiate for the position of Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at Hamilton.

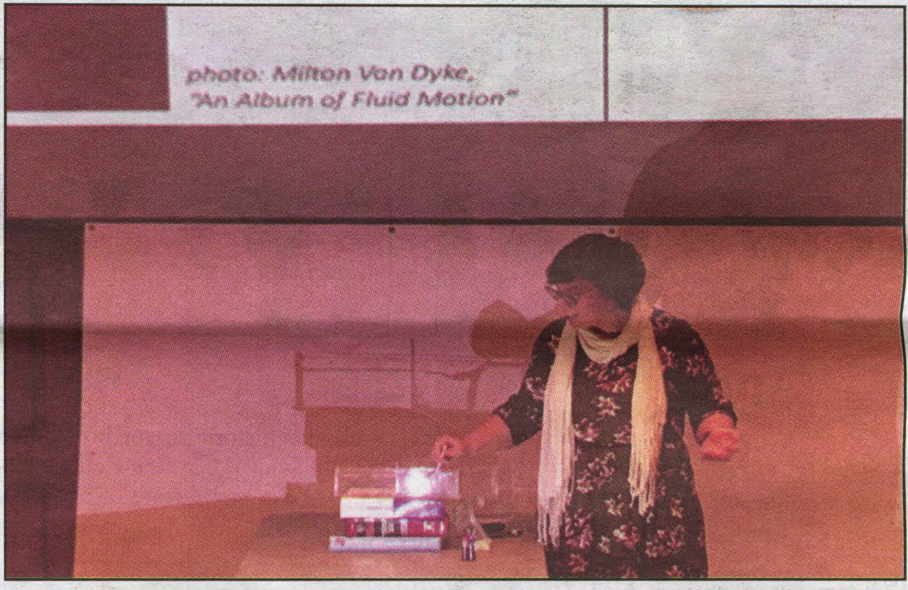


PHOTO COURTESY OF CLIFF MUSIAL '21

Above: Professor Warner explains the effects of turbulence on mixing with a live demonstration.

The Hamilton Horoscope

by Cliff Musial '21
Features Editor

The looming threat of finals week stressing you out? Well, look to the astrological portents, and your questions will be answered. Be warned, however, the stars did not seem very happy this week. Take their recommendations with a grain of salt. Find your birthday below to identify your sign.

January 20-February 18: **Aquarius**
February 19-March 20: **Pisces**
March 21-April 19: **Aries**
April 20-May 20: **Taurus**
May 21-June 20: **Gemini**
June 21-July 22: **Cancer**
July 23-August 22: **Leo**
August 23-September 22: **Virgo**
September 23-October 22: **Libra**
October 23-November 21: **Scorpio**
November 22-December 21: **Sagittarius**
December 22-January 19: **Capricorn**

Aquarius

The truth is, you are not going to prepare for finals as well as you should. I am not going to call you out on it. Instead, I am going to encourage you to realize that is okay. No one prepares for finals as well as they should. Get enough sleep, study well, be ready, but do not worry about being perfect. Chances are, you would not have gotten a one-hundred percent anyway.

Pisces

I let your disorganization slide Aquarius, but you need to get your stuff together. I say that endearingly because you are a great person and I respect you. But this is not you. Pick yourself up and get through this week. A relaxing winter break is waiting for you. You got this!

Aries

You may not realize it, but you are doing very well for yourself. Be careful not to let this get to your head. However, the full moon last night means that you have peaked. There may be some trouble ahead as the moon wanes. Nothing you can not handle.

Taurus

I (the mouthpiece of the stars) feel like I have been pessimistic recently. "Why don't I get a horoscope? Why can't someone tell me what to do?" But that begs the question of why I can tell you what to do. So I do not know, Taurus. Do what you want. Life is short.

Gemini

I have no right to tell you what to do. If you insist on listening to me, here's my advice: don't read horoscopes. And certainly don't make life decisions based on them.

Cancer

Alright, Cancer. The stars have spoken to me and told me you should sell your car. Sell all of your earthly possessions. Give up everything except rice and water. Travel the countryside and seek enlightenment.

Leo

The stars said you have been strutting around like you own the campus. Well, guess what? That is great! It is important to stay positive as finals approach. Continue to hold your head high and make Martin's Way your catwalk.

Virgo

Great things await you this week. You will pass your finals. You will find your purpose. You will find your soulmate. You will discover the meaning of life. You will come to terms with your mortality. You will realize true happiness. You will stop believing in astrology.

Libra

Freedom is your thing. Like Gemini, you could benefit from doing what you want. That does not mean that you should commit a crime. I just mean that you should take control of your fate.

Scorpio

You feel low this week. And that is okay because you are the opposite of the moon. The moon is at its peak and you are at your low, but that will change as the moon wanes. Keep your head up!

Sagittarius

You have a green, scaly skin, and a soft yellow underbelly with a series of fin-like ridges running down your spine and tail. Although lizard-like in shape, you can grow anything up to thirty feet in length with huge teeth that can bite off great rocks and trees. You inhabit arid sub-tropical zones and will do well on finals. I think that last bit is right.

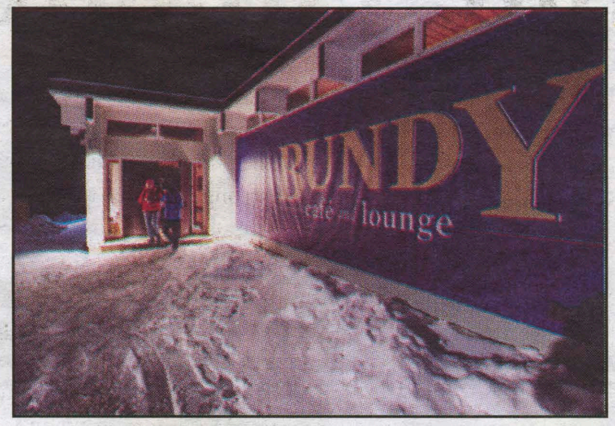
Capricorn

Your study habits are holding you back. Try flashcards, studying with friends, or using diagrams. Rereading messy notes is not necessarily the best way to study.

Hamilton's 2019 in photographs

January

Hamilton unveils the new indoor practice facility. The synthetic turf provides varsity teams, club teams, and intramural sports with a much needed new space.

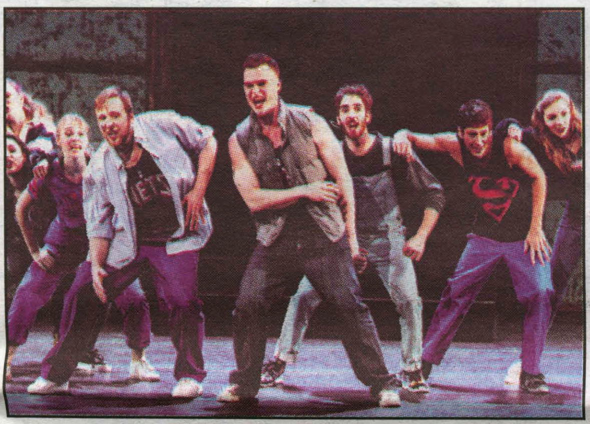


February

During FebFest Hamilton officially opened Bundy Cafe and Lounge. The former Bundy Dining Hall was transformed to provide a common space for Gray Side.

March

Hamilton's Men's basketball team made it to the NCAA semifinals. The team's 25 wins are the second-highest total in one season in program history.



April

The Hamilton College Theatre Department puts on *West Side Story* as the Spring Theatre production. The adaptation of the classic musical was directed by Professor Mark Cryer.

May

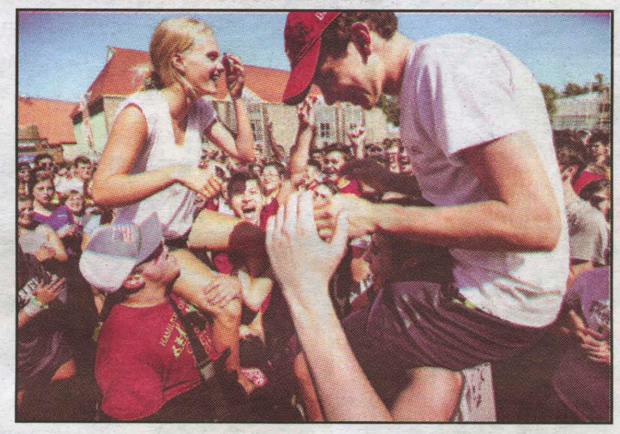
Softball's historic season broke the record for the most wins of any Hamilton College team in history. The Continentals ended their season with 28 wins.

June

This year's Alumni reunions weekend included a celebration honoring the 50th anniversary of Opportunity Programs at Hamilton

July

Hamilton is awarded a $493,321 grant for *Immersive Experiences in Arts and Technology*. The grant provides funds for the creation of digital art curriculm.



August

513 first-year students moved into their dorm rooms on Aug. 20. 2019 was the college's most selective year on record, with a 16% acceptance rate.

September

Hundreds of Hamilton students gathered outside of Soper Commons to participate in the Global Climate Strike on Sept. 20.

October

Tina Fey came to campus as the Sacerdote Great Names Series speaker. Members of the Hamilton community attended a Q& A with the actor, producer, and writer.

November

On Nov. 27, Because Hamilton Day, raised a total of $3,092,733 from donors across the country, all supporting financial aid and financial aid endowments.

December

A winter storm on Dec. 1 forced the college to cancel classes the next day. Students made the most of the only snow day of 2019, by playing in the snow.

ALL PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Untitled@Large Production Review: *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*

by Lelan O'Brien '23
Staff Writer

On Dec. 3 and 4, the Untitled@Large theater group performed *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* in the Kennedy Center's Barrett Lab Theater. Based on the comic strip *Peanuts* by cartoonist Charles M. Schulz, this production was director Michael Mayer's version of the musical. Community members, faculty, and students filled the theater on both nights of the family-friendly musical directed by Aaron Simons '22.

Within the cast of six, the character of Linus Van Pelt was played by Jonathan Shakespeare '22, Sally Brown was portrayed by Jasmine Gess '23, Schroeder by Kenny Letts '21, Lucy Van Pelt by Maggie Luddy '20, Snoopy by Cole Wright-Schaner '23, and Charlie Brown by Aaron Simons '22.

The production served as a simple, enjoyable take on *Peanuts*' best themes. From the iconic "The Doctor Is In" bit with Lucy Van Pelt to Snoopy perched on top of his doghouse for "The Red Baron," each musical performance channeled the essence of Charlie Brown and his *Peanuts* sidekicks. It was the perfect study break for finals: Simons said in his Director's Note that, "It's fun to escape the seriousness of grown-up life and revel in the innocence (and blissful ignorance) of youth."

The musical was split into two acts with an intermission. The cast performed a series of fourteen scenes, belting out songs that highlighted both their wide vocal range and acting skills. The cast worked with a few props, including a doghouse for Snoopy, a "Doctor is in" stand for Lucy, and Schroeder's classic piano. Although the dates of the performance suggest a holiday theme, the scenes bounced from Valentine's Day to "Beethoven Day" in December.

Simons elaborated that "the show's setting is all over the place. Quite frankly, it really doesn't make sense. But that's precisely the point. *Charlie Brown* isn't attempting to make a statement; it isn't trying to educate anyone. It's just… fun. It's fun to watch a group of college students play preschoolers."

The simplicity of the plot, songs, and hilarious scenes reminded Reilee Gunsher '21 "of what creativity was like as a child, being able to put on a show in your living room with a few cardboard boxes and your imagination." Gunsher was also touched by the messages shown throughout the play, explaining that "Every character was funny and beautiful and relatable. Everyone has felt lonely like Charlie Brown, everyone has felt shameful like Lucy, and I'm sure we've all been overdramatically hungry like Snoopy."

Stand out performances of the night included Luddy as Lucy and Wright-Schaner as Snoopy. Luddy has a tremendous repertoire in the Hamilton theater community: she played Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray* and Éponine in *Les Misérables*, and is well known for her directing talents. Luddy's most notable performance in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* was during the second scene, "Schroeder," where she quickly established her amazing talent as a vocalist. According to Gunsher, "[Luddy] could not have been a more perfect Lucy; she was spunky, funny, and so incredibly talented." Wright-Schaner also received some of the loudest applause of the night for his performances in "Snoopy," "The Red Baron," and "Suppertime." His comedic take on Snoopy made Wright-Schraner, along with Luddy, a highlight of the night.

Carlo Benavides '23 said that "the entire cast is incredibly vibrant" but found Shakespeare's portrayal of Linus particularly remarkable, noting that he "really embodied Linus, [and] I was truly impressed." Sally, who was played by Jasmine Gess, also impressed Benavides, who thought that "she did a great job, especially as a freshman." Appreciative of the "heartwarming story," Benavides found the songs "enchanting."

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown is the perfect musical for all ages and was the perfect performance to send students into finals week on the right note. The addictive brightness of the story and talent of the cast was clear after every song—the play was goofy, touching, and hilarious, yet also carried emotional depth. Gunsher exclaimed that "This was definitely the best musical I've ever seen at Hamilton."

PHOTO COURTESTY OF LELAN O'BRIEN '23

The cast members pose at the end of the performance. Untitled@Large is Hamilton's student-run theatre company.

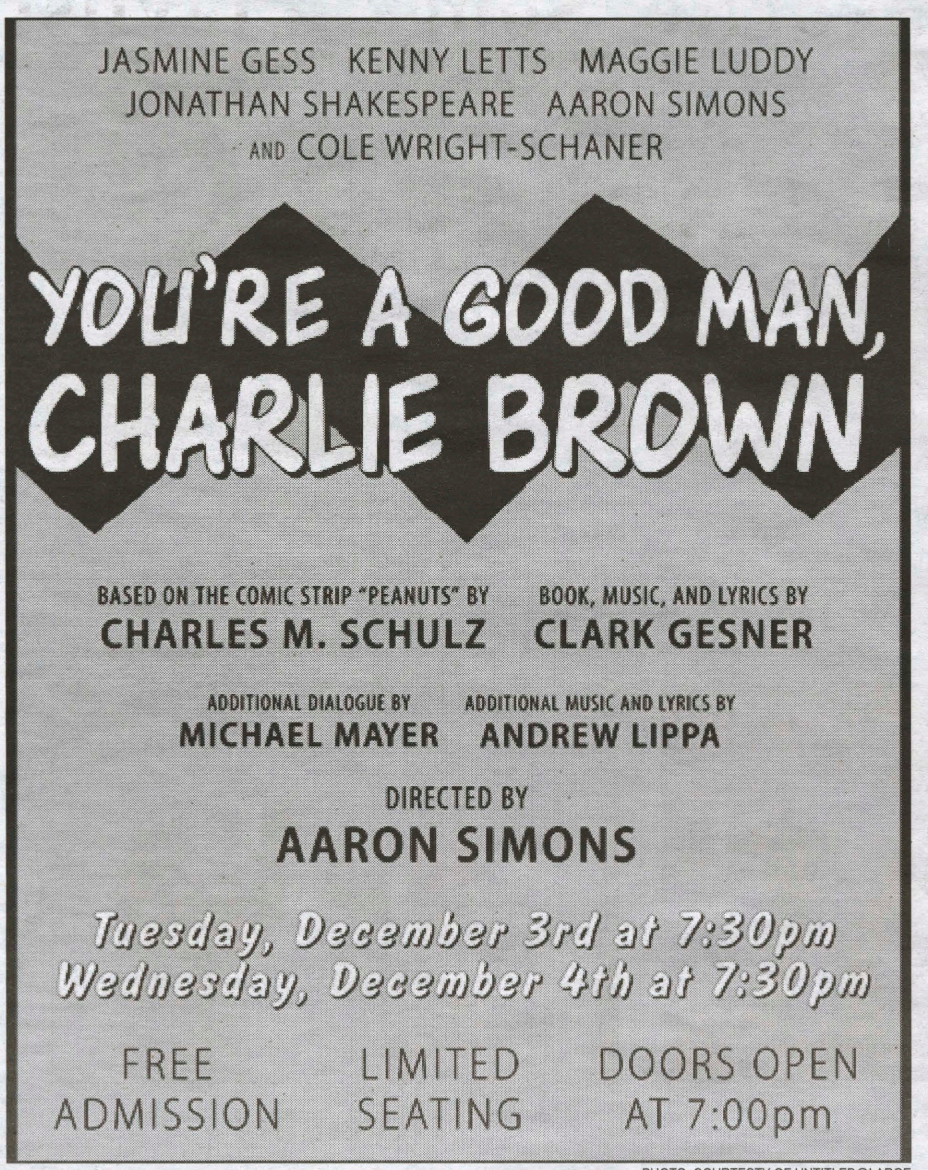


PHOTO COURTESTY OF UNTITLED@LARGE

The poster for the Untitled@Large musical production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown.*

PHOTO COURTESTY OF LELAN O'BRIEN '23

The cast performs a musical number. (From left to right) Aaron Simons '22, Jasmine Gess '23, Cole Wright-Schaner '23, Jonathan Shakespeare '22, Kenny Letts '21, and Maggie Luddy '20.

Review: Marielle Heller's *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*

by R.J. Steele '23
A&E Contributor

"What do you do with the mad that you feel?"

This lyric from a children's song on *Mister Roger's Neighborhood* , a show that has done a lot in its day. It defined the childhood of a generation, secured millions in funding from Congress, and, most recently, stood center stage in Marielle Heller's *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood.*

The film follows embittered *Esquire* journalist Lloyd Vogel, who is sent to write a profile on beloved children's TV entertainer Fred Rogers. Initially upset by being forced to write a "useless fluff-piece," Vogel's initial meeting with Rogers blossoms into a lifelong friendship that teaches him about forgiveness, family, and love. This film is, at its core, about a broken man learning that pain doesn't have to be the end of the story.

Before you see *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*, know that you are going to feel a lot. While many films make us feel uneasy, scared, heartbroken, or angry, this movie is rare in that it makes you feel good and loved while handling complex, difficult moments.

As uplifting as this film is, do not be fooled into thinking it is flat or uninteresting. *Neighborhood* has moments of intense and even unpleasant emotions, sadness and rage that burn through the screen until you are left with a tangled mess in your lap. The protagonist's struggles build up and become so claustrophobic that those in the audience can't help but be transported to a time in childhood when all of life's problems seemed incomprehensibly big. By the time Hanks, as Rogers, asks the question "What do you do with the mad that you feel?", you will be begging for the answer along with the film's protagonist.

Lovers of film's technical elements may not have much to sink their teeth into, when you compare this movie to some other recent releases. However, *Neighborhood* has its own shining moments of cinematography. A dream sequence involving puppets, lost loved ones, and Vogel's wife stands out as a particularly memorable and poignant scene. The most effective directorial choice in the film is the way Rogers offers advice to Vogel by speaking directly to the camera. When he says, simply, that you are special and worthy of love, you can't help but believe it.

This brings us to what is easily the film's most incredible and impactful element: the performances. Lloyd Vogel is so compelling and heartbreakingly real that a viewer can't help but see themselves up there on the silver screen. As for Tom Hanks, to say that he portrays Mr. Rogers accurately would be an understatement. Hanks spent hours and

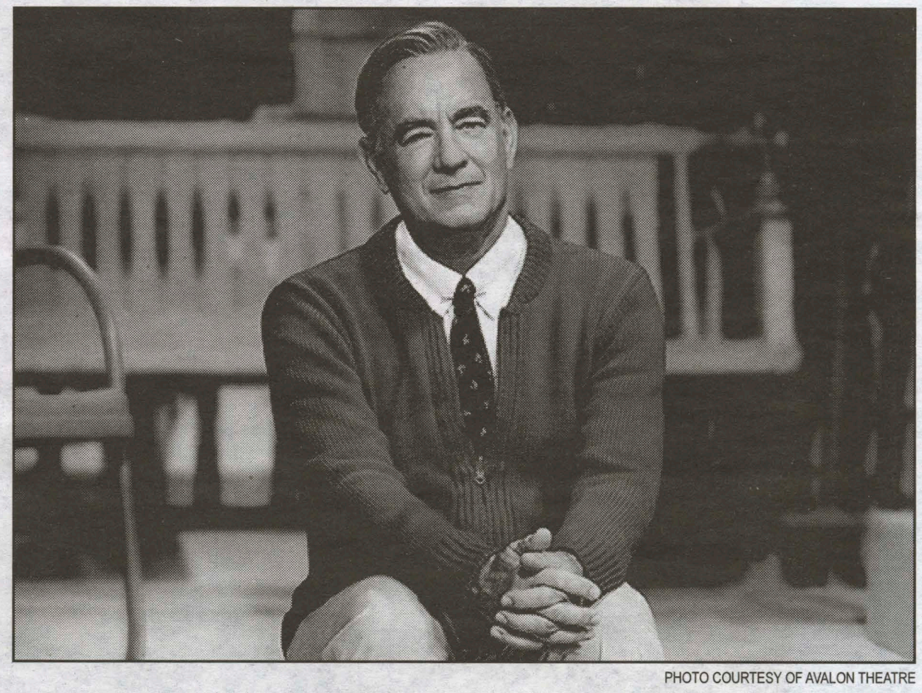


PHOTO COURTESY OF AVALON THEATRE

Actor Tom Hanks stars as television personality Fred Rogers in the movie *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood.*

hours analyzing facial tics and speech patterns, and it pays off in a massive way. His voice carries all the warmth that Rogers' did, and he exudes the same kind, gentle wisdom that guided so many children through life's difficulties. He does the man justice, and in this case, that is one of the highest compliments that could be given.

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood is complex, involves difficult subjects, and may even make you confront challenges in your own life. However, so too did episodes of Mister Rogers' *Neighborhood*, and like its source material, this film will present you with difficulties but promise that you will not have to struggle with them alone. Around Christmas time, this movie serves as a brilliant reminder of how to be good to both those around us and ourselves. It seems only fitting to end with a note from Mr. Rogers himself, to say "I like you just the way you are." Be good to yourselves: it's what he would have wanted.

The Spectator Staff Favorite Songs Playlist

by Emma Mae Regan '22
A&E Editor

Are the songs you used to bop to starting to become boring? Are you looking to spice up your Spotify playlist? Fear not, here is a playlist of the Spectator editors' current favorite songs.

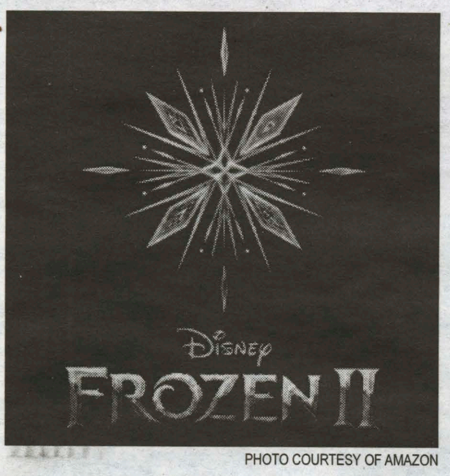


PHOTO COURTESY OF AMAZON

Name: Josie Blatt'21, Managing Editor
Pick: "Lost In The Woods" by Jonathan Groff
Why?: It is such a bop and the cinematography in the scene where he sings it is wonderfully dramatic and hilarious. I also agree with Kristen Bell, who plays Anna in the film. She praised the song's cultural value, saying, "Little boys don't often see representation of other boys having really big loving feelings." This song shows those feelings and it is so much fun to sing along to!

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Name: Genny Cohen '21, Head Production Editor
Pick: "Graveyard" by Halsey
Why?: I have been a big Halsey fan for a while. I like that this song in particular has a lot of layered sounds that build towards the chorus. It is fun and always puts me in a good mood.

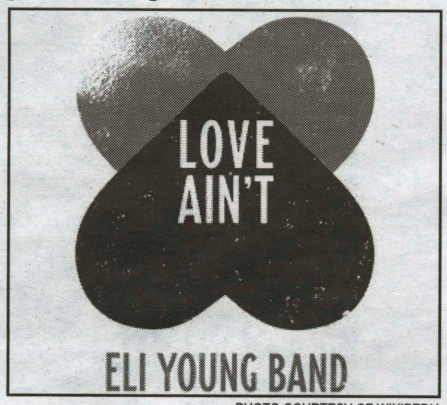


PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Name: Julie Kokot '21, Production Editor
Pick: "Love Ain't" by Eli Young Band
Why?: It is such a fun song to listen to!

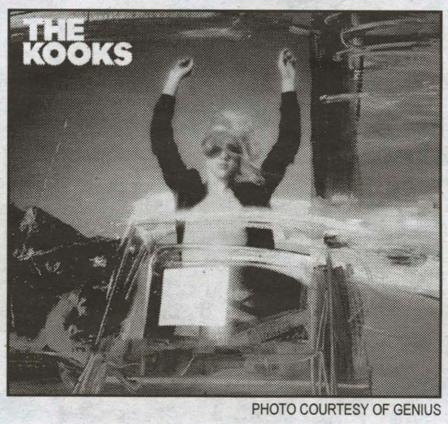


PHOTO COURTESY OF GENIUS

Name: Natalie Halpin '21, News Editor
Pick: "Eskimo Kiss" by The Kooks
Why?: That song is so freaking cute!

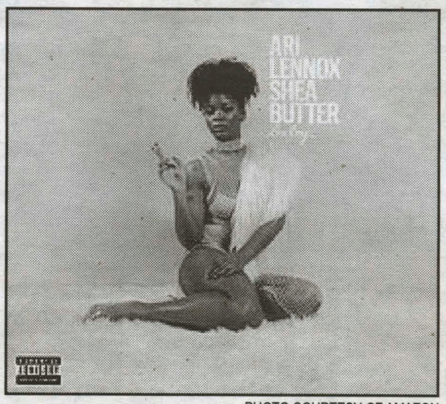


PHOTO COURTESY OF AMAZON

Name: Jo Dine '22, Sports Editor
Pick: "Shea Butter Baby" by Ari Lennox
Why?: I listened to this album a lot over the summer, so it reminds me of those times. Also, Ari Lennox and J. Cole (who is featured on the song) are some of my favorite artists.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMAZON

Name: Jonina Mignon'21, News Editor
Pick: "Sweet Pea" by Amos Lee
Why?: The happy and wholesome vibes!

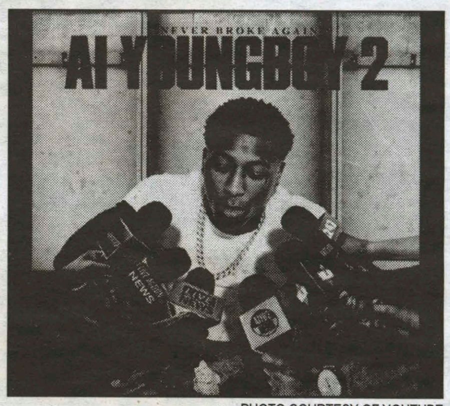


PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTUBE

Name: Will Kaback '20, Editor-in-Chief
Pick: "Make No Sense" by YoungBoy Never Broke Again
Why?: NBA YoungBoy went platinum four times before he turned 20, but "Make No Sense" is his finest work to date. Gucci Mane in 2006, indeed.

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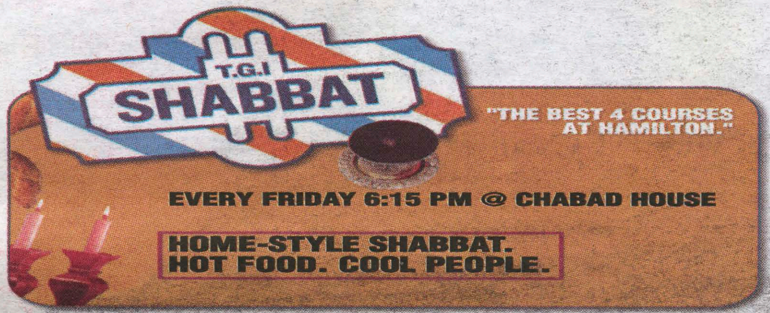

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NESCAC Ice Hockey Rankings

Women's

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall
#1	Colby Mules	4-0-0	6-0-1
#2	Middlebury Panthers	3-0-1	5-0-2
#3	Bowdoin Polar Bears	2-2-0	4-3-1
#3	Connecticut Camels	2-2-0	6-3-0
#3	Williams Ephs	2-2-0	4-4-0
#6	Amherst Mammoths	1-2-1	3-3-2
#7	Hamilton Continentals	1-3-0	4-3-0
#8	Trinity Bantams	1-3-0	2-3-0
#8	Wesleyan Cardinals	1-1-0	3-3-0

Men's

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall
#1	Trinity Bantams	4-0-0	7-0-0
#2	Middlebury Panthers	5-1-0	6-2-0
#2	Williams Ephs	5-1-0	6-2-0
#4	Wesleyan Cardinals	2-2-0	4-3-0
#5	Bowdoin Polar Bears	2-3-0	4-4-0
#5	Hamilton Continentals	2-3-0	3-5-0
#7	Connecticut Camels	2-4-0	3-5-0
#7	Tufts Jumbos	2-4-0	3-6-0
#9	Amherst Mammoths	1-4-0	2-5-1
#9	Colby Mules	1-4-0	3-5-0

Men's hockey wins 1-0 against Williams at annual Citrus Bowl

by Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

The men's hockey team (3-5 overall, 2-3 NESCAC) earned their second conference win of the season against Williams College at Hamilton's annual Citrus Bowl game on Friday, Dec. 6. Williams was ranked #13 nationally at the time by the USHCO.

Since their tough season opening 5-2 loss to Amherst College on Saturday, Nov. 16, the Continentals beat Wesleyan University and narrowly lost to nationally-ranked #8 Trinity College.

The Citrus Bowl was the team's fifth home game of the 2019-20 season. It is usually the most highly-attended men's hockey match, and the team diligently prepared for their tough NESCAC opponent.

The scoreless first period featured 26 total shots by Hamilton players and 21 from Williams. Anthony Tirabassi '20 started at goalie for Hamilton and made eight saves in this period. He finished with 16 in total for his first shutout of the season.

The first and only goal of the game was scored with around two and a half minutes left in the second period. Stephen Cochrane '20 passed the puck to Sterling Bray '20, who then quickly passed to Sean Allen '21.

Bray and Allen both charged towards Williams' goal. Bray's took the first shot, which was saved by Williams' goalie. However, Allen was able to get the rebound past him for the eventual game-winning goal. It was Allen's first goal of the season.

With only over a minute left in the third period, the goalie for Williams substituted off the ice to give them an extra skater. The Ephs only ended up making four shots on goal in this period, however, all of which were saved by Tirabassi. Hamilton ended up with 27 total shots on goal, compared to 16 by Williams. They also won 37 faceoffs to Williams' 28.

The Continentals are now tied for fifth in the conference with 13 regular season NESCAC match-ups left. Four of these will be on the road during winter break. Their next match will be against Skidmore College at the Clinton Arena on Friday, Jan. 3 at 7:00 P.M.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Sean Allen '21 celebrates his first goal of the season, assisted by Sterling Bray '20 and Stephen Cochrane '20.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VICTOR LOU '21

Students in attendance celebrate a late save by Anthony Tirabassi '20.

Athlete of the Week: Kelli Mackey '20

Kelli Mackey '20, one of Women's hockey's 3 captains, scored her first three goals of the season in a 6-1 win against SUNY Potsdam on Saturday, Dec. 7, for her first career hat trick. One of them was the game winner, making her total game-winning goals at Hamilton three. In the 2018-19 season, Mackey finished with two goals and eight assists.

Hometown:
Pittsburgh, P.A.

Position:
Defense.

Favorite Professional Athlete:
Kris Letang (of the Pittsburgh Penguins).

How did you get introduced to hockey:
My younger brother started to play ice hockey after we moved to Pittsburgh from California. My parents had us both on the ice, but at the time I was doing figure skating, and my brother was playing hockey. My dad has always been a big hockey fan when he was a child. One night at my brother's skate practice I saw a flyer for an all-girls team. That night, I convinced my dad into letting me try out for the team and I loved it! I switched to hockey when I was seven years old.

What is your favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport?
My favorite thing to do on Hamilton's campus besides my sport is to eat Diner with all of my friends! I also love waalking through the Glen in the fall.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

What attracted you to Hamilton's hockey program?
I really wanted to go to a school where I could focus equally on academics and athletics. A big reason I came to Hamilton was to help build a women's hockey program and try to compete for a NESCAC Championship and NCAA Championship. I really wanted to be apart of building a foundation and Hamilton gave me that chance, while also giving me a great academic experience.

What was the toughest obstacle to overcome during your athletic career?
Two years ago, I broke my wrist in my third game. I had to get surgery and missed the entire rest of the season. It was really hard to not play with my team, but I was able to be apart of the team in other ways off the ice. I had to work really hard in physical therapy to come back the next season, but getting hurt really helped me to appreciate hockey and the Hamilton program.

What has been your favorite sports moment at Hamilton?
My favorite sports memory is when we swept Middlebury (at Middlebury) my first year at Hamilton.

What are you most looking forward to this season?
I am looking forward to going to practice every day with my best friends and enjoying the little moments and all of the laughs we have, whether it is in the locker room, on the bench, or on the bus. I am really excited for our team to get the chance to compete for Hamilton Women's ice hockey's first NESCAC and NCAA Championships.

If you weren't on the hockey team, what Hamilton sports team would you want to be on and why?
I would love to be on the women's basketball team, because I am a huge college basketball fan! I love to watch March Madness, and I follow a lot of college teams throughout the season. I never got to play basketball growing up, because it conflicted with hockey.

Athletic events during winter break:

Men's Basketball
Men's basketball will face Utica on Friday, Jan. 3 and SUNY Geneseo on Monday, Jan. 6 in the Field House. The following weekend, they will have their first NESCAC match-ups: Williams and Middlebury, both at home.

Women's Basketball
Following a tournament in Nashville, T.N., Women's basketball will begin NESCAC play by traveling to Williams and Middlebury. On Friday, Jan. 17 and Saturday, Jan. 18 they will face Tufts and Bates, respectively, at home.

Women's Squash
The Women's squash team has a packed travel schedule over the break. They will go up against Dickinson and Franklin & Marshall in Pennsylvania; St. Lawrence in Canton, N.Y.; Connecticut College; and Fordham in Bronx, N.Y.

Men's Squash
The Men's squash team has a packed travel schedule over the break. They will go up against Dickinson and Franklin & Marshall in Pennsylvania; St. Lawrence in Canton, N.Y.; Connecticut College; and Fordham in Bronx, N.Y.

Men's Swim and Dive
Men's swim and dive has two home meets during the break, one against Wesleyan on Saturday, Jan. 4 at 2:00 p.m. and the next against Rochester Institute of Technology on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 1:00 P.M.

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Men's Hockey
Men's hockey has four NESCAC competitions over winter break—against Bowdoin, Colby, Tufts and Connecticut—but they are all on the road. Their first home game following the break is on Friday, Jan. 24 against Amherst at 7:00 P.M.

Women's Hockey
Women's hockey has two NESCAC doubleheaders; they will play Bowdoin on Friday, Jan. 10 at 7:00 P.M. and Saturday, Jan. 11 at 3:00 P.M. The following weekend, they will play Trinity on Friday, Jan. 17 at 7:00 P.M. and Saturday, Jan. 18 at 3:00 P.M.

SPECTATOR SPORTS
December 12, 2019

Women's basketball's newest additions reflect on start of the season

by Kelcie Zarle '22
Staff Writer

The Hamilton women's basketball team (7–1) took to the court for their second home game of the 2019-20 season in Hamilton's Margaret Bundy Scott Field House on Monday, Dec. 9 to play the Utica College Pioneers. First years Emma Sehring '23 and Olivia Davis '23, as well as sophomore transfer from Siena College, Claire Sehring '22, contributed productive minutes while wearing their white home uniforms for the second time in their careers.

The Sehring sisters, who are from Sauquoit, N.Y., are both forwards on the women's basketball team. Against the Pioneers, Emma Sehring scored eight points and had six rebounds, while Claire Sehring added 11 points, nine rebounds and four assists. Davis, who is from Norwalk, C.T., scored the first points of her career and ended the game with seven total points, two steals and one block.

After the 92-53 win against Utica College, *The Spectator* spoke with the three newcomers to discuss their first season as Continentals and their hopes both for this season and future seasons to come.

Spectator: What is the biggest difference between high school basketball and college basketball?

Davis: The biggest difference between high school and college basketball is definitely the pace of the game. Everyone is stronger and faster and I've learned so far that I have to be willing to always push myself to keep up.

E. Sehring: I definitely agree with Olivia that pace is the biggest difference.

C. Sehring: Yes, the pace and overall strength of the players is very different in college.

Spectator: What is the best part of playing basketball at Hamilton so far?

E. Sehring: The best part is definitely the team. It's like a little family that I was able to feel a part of right as I set foot on campus.

C. Sehring: Like Emma said, the best part about being on a team is that you have a family that always has your back and you can go to with anything.

Davis: I agree with the sisters; the best part of playing basketball at Hamilton for me has definitely been how close our team is. I always know that I can rely on my teammates for anything. It's one big support system. It has been difficult adjusting to expectations on the court because as a freshman I don't want to mess up, but the team has been there for me every step of the way and that has made the adjustment much easier.

Spectator: Do you have any pre-game rituals that you follow?

Davis: I don't have any pre-game rituals, but I do have to listen to whatever playlist I'm vibing with before I play.

E. Sehring: I have no pre-game rituals.

C. Sehring: Prior to the games, I take a 20 minute pre-game nap and I also listen to the same songs before each game.

Spectator: Which NESCAC team are you most looking forward to playing this season?

Davis: I am looking forward to playing Trinity College because I know that we owe them for last year!

E. Sehring: I am looking forward to playing Colby this season because last year [Hamilton] only lost to them by one point.

C. Sehring: I would say Amherst, but I also want to say Wesleyan because I came and watched the game last year and it was a tough loss so we have to get them back this year!

Spectator: What are your expectations for the team this season?

Davis: One expectation that I have for the team this year is good chemistry on the court. This is something that we have shown already since the beginning of the season.

E. Sehring: My expectations for the team this season are to win more games than last season and improve as a whole.

C. Sehring: My expectations for the team are also to take a big step forward from last season and make it to the NESCAC tournament!

Spectator: Who is your favorite basketball player?

Davis: Obviously Jayson Tatum.

C. Sehring: Definitely Giannis Antetokounmpo.

E. Sehring: My favorite basketball player is every player on the Hamilton women's basketball team.

Davis, Claire Sehring and Emma Sehring are all looking forward to seeing what the rest of the season has in store. Their last game before winter break is on Wednesday, Dec. 11 as they will be traveling to William Smith to take on the Herons. Davis and the Sehring sisters, as well as the rest of the team, are also looking forward to competing in the Nashville Music City Classic tournament in Nashville, T.N. over winter break.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SUNY PLATTSBURGH ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Hamilton's women's basketball team won the Cardinal Classic tournament on Friday, Nov. 22 and Saturday, Nov. 23. The team's newest members include Olivia Davis '23 (third from left), Claire Sehring '22 (fourth from left, top row), and Emma Sehring '23 (second from right).